(a) whether Government has worked out a uniform core curriculum for CBSE and decided to make the class X Board Examination optional;

(b) if so, the details of the revised CBSE curriculum and the major changes to be introduced in the curriculum; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) follows uniform curriculum in all its affiliated schools throughout the country. It has been decided by CBSE not to have Class 10 Board Examination for students in higher secondary schools and who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after class X.

(b) and (c) CBSE curriculum has not been revised during the last year. Making the class X Board Examination optional for some students does not necessitate any major changes in Curriculum.

Minority educational institution status to Jamia Millia Islamia

229. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jamia Millia Islamia was established by Muslims and was later incorporated as such by an Act of Parliament;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this university falls under article 30(1) of the Constitution of India;

(c) if so, whether Government would declare it as a minority educational institution;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) In accordance with Section 2(o) of the Jamia Millia Islamia Act, 1988, the "University" means the educational institution known as "Jamia Millia Islamia" founded in 1920 during the Khilafat and Non-Co-operation Movement in response to Gandhiji's call for a boycott of all Government-sponsored educational institutions which was subsequently registered in 1939 as Jamia Millia Islamia Society, and declared in 1962 as an institution deemed to be a University under section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, and which is incorporated as a University under the said Act.

The question relating to minority institution status of Aligarh Muslim University is pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, where the interpretation of the term "establishing" a University, as was laid down in the "Azeez Basha" matter, is under challenge and that the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in that matter will have a bearing on the issue relating to the minority character of Jamia Millia Islamia, which is pending before the Hon'ble National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions.